

THE AMERICAN FARMER

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Suggestions on Immigration.

To secure immigration to this state, the character and habits of the people must be studied and understood before it will become a success. As a rule classism in pursuits is very strong across the "big pond," as Paulding facetiously called it, so much so that even in their cities and towns those of one pursuit may be found in a single section, and not elsewhere. In England, even the laborers live in hamlets on the estate of the proprietor, planted close together, so that it is not uncommon for the laborers to reside from one to three miles from their work. To this system we owe the rapid building up of the West, where many from the same section settle close together, as close as the changed conditions will allow.

Now here there is no attempt made to locate our immigrants in our villages or towns, or on the larger farms, where old time social life and surroundings can be reproduced; nor is an effort ever made, so far as is known, where three men on adjoining farms, each wanting one or more hands, seek to locate their tenant houses together, so that these people can be together whenever time or inclination might allow and prompt.

A German lady, located in one of our Eastern Shore towns in which there was no other family of the same nationality, once told us, "You Americans are very kind, and I like you, but your habits, customs and language are so different from mine that I cannot enjoy myself, and I must move where I can feel more at home."

Assuming this to be true, it will at once be seen that farmers desiring immigration must provide the necessary inducements before they can reasonably expect to succeed. Dividing up land, with no improvements, by a single man, with, perhaps, no other for miles, and leaving the buyer to build, will not answer the ends. Manufacturers, when putting up mills, to make them a success, provide dwellings, boarding houses, etc., close at hand, for their operatives, and have little trouble in finding labor. The farmers must imitate their example before they can hope to succeed.

A farmer in an Eastern Shore county, when slavery was abolished, built three houses on his land, as-

signing an acre to each, with the privilege of tending it and putting a cow in the home pasture. The houses were given to Germans, and the experiment proved a success, the farmer never being without help.

If every one applying at the German agency in Baltimore could assure the same condition of affairs, help would be much more easily obtained than now. It will not do to get only men without families, as they are more apt to leave than those with them. That the farmers could and would employ far more than now, and could do so profitably, seems indisputable. But to do it, they seem not to be prepared at present.

Permanent, reliable help is the farmer's need, and as another means to this, a system of long leases, such as exist abroad, the tenants there continuing in possession of the same farms for 100 years and over. It is this class of "help" that Maryland chiefly needs, and could we secure them, from their families might be drawn very much of the other now so sorely needed—family domestics.

Ten men in every neighborhood, who would agree to lease 50 acres each for 10 years, and could secure foreign tenants accustomed to farm on this plan, would be a nucleus, and would prove a boon of inestimable value to it.

Marylanders must recollect that no nation has ever shown such wonderful versatility of talent as the Americans, and none who could so easily and successfully change their occupations. Hence the importance of attempting to reproduce foreign ideas of home to make our help contented and happy, as well as to induce them to cast in their lot with us.

Manures.

The first thing the farmer should determine is the natural constituents of his soil, and then those of the crop he proposes to plant. If the former are in sufficient quantity to grow a crop, and give a sufficient surplus to pay cost of cultivation, interest on investment in farming materials, including stock, taxes and interest, with a remainder for support of family and something for a rainy day, then manures are not needed.

Should his crop, when gathered, not do this, then two courses are

open to him: change the crop or apply suitable manures. These may be classed as home and purchased. If the latter, then the experience of the experiment stations is that it will not pay on land that will grow 50 bushels of corn to the acre.

Corn gets half of its nitrogen from the air. Hence, in manuring it, that substance should not be applied that contains it in excess. Wheat, rye, oats, demand a manure rich in ammonia. Wheat demands less potash than either oats and rye, which take the most, with corn a medium between them. Wheat calls for more phosphoric acid than either of the four cereals, corn next, with oats and rye between.

With these facts before us, the question of manures becomes an easier one. We give the analysis of the main home ones:

	Nitro- gen.	Pot- ash.	Phos- Acid.
Cow manure, fresh.....	0.84	0.40	0.16
Hen dung.....	1.68	0.85	1.54
Hog manure.....	0.45	0.60	0.19
Horse manure.....	0.58	0.53	0.28
Sheep manure.....	0.83	0.67	0.23
Long leaf pine.....	*1 lb.	0.41	0.24
Short leaf pine.....	*9.36 lb.	0.77	0.15
Oak leaves.....	0.93	0.55	0.06
Wood ashes, unleached.....		5.50	1.85
Wood ashes, leached.....		1.10	1.40
Wheat straw.....	0.51	0.09	0.74

*In 100 lbs.

If we multiply these percentages by 20, cutting off in the product as in decimals, we shall get the number of pounds of each in a ton. We may have something to say of the needs of other crops and the duration of manures sometime soon. x.

Our Rain-Manures.

Old folks used to calculate good wheat years from the amount of snow that fell in them, predicated upon their observed effects. At that day, too, people would talk of rich and poor rains, and they were right in view of the discoveries of modern chemical science. In an article or two, heretofore published, attention has been called to this fact, and the amount derived from atmospheric sources given. To this we add, from the *Experiment Station Record*, published by the Agricultural Department, a monthly publication that by its references to state reports and bulletins makes one's mouth water for a perusal of what is so valuable in them, (but is unobtainable, like the grapes that

Reynard so desired,) for February last. Nitrogen, per acre (4 years average), 3.44 pounds; nitrogen, as ammonia, 2.63 pounds; nitrogen, in nitric acid, 1.06. 28 per cent. of the rains falling in December, January, February and March, contained nitrates, and 89 per cent. of those in June, July, August and September, or enough to supply one-seventh the nitrogen necessary for a wheat crop of 25 bushels per acre.

In this view, it becomes a matter of some importance to determine the proper condition of the surface soil to receive and retain these free but valuable gifts of a bounteous Creator.

It is the duty of all enterprising, thinking farmers to study deeply this very important question. Certain it is, that it must change the mode and proportion in which the manures must be mixed. Soils must be studied with reference to their power to receive and retain water, and with it the nitrates it may contain. A simple work, easy of comprehension, is badly needed by farmers, and especially in the schools—one that may combine practice and theory. A.

Weeds.

There is one subject that should not fail to arrest the attention and awaken the solicitude of the farmers of Maryland, but as yet I have not seen any mention of it in our agricultural papers. It is weeds. Any one acquainted with the agricultural districts of our state cannot have failed to notice the unsightly appearance of the fields and road-sides overrun by these pests of the farm, to the great detriment of the growing crops. Some of them are annuals, and all of them, when allowed a few years' start, are perpetual. Their name is legion, and the loss they occasion by crowding out the cultivated crops would, if it could be estimated, astonish the statistician. Among the most persistent growers, and, under present conditions, never to be exterminated weeds, might be noticed garlic, wild carrot, clegget weed, Methodist weed, Carolina pink, blue thistle, Canada thistle, yellow cress, horse nettle, narrow leaf dock, cockle and rag weed, besides dozens of minor importance. Many of these are only known in certain localities, but most

of them are distributed over this and adjoining states.

Many farmers in this locality begin to consider seriously this (to them) alarming evil, and think the state should propose some remedy for its abatement. Many of us have for years been fighting with might and main to extirpate these pests of the farm, but, unfortunately, with only partial success. The reason for that is, we have neighbors who are unconcerned, and allow all weeds their own sweet will, and, in consequence, adjoining farms are continually being replenished from their surplus crop. Why not have laws compelling every owner of land to keep it clear of the most noxious weeds, affixing an adequate penalty for allowing any to seed? If not wholly eradicating them, it would at least prevent their continued increase.

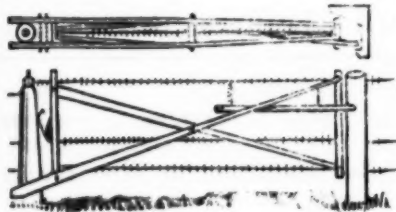
The Grangers and Farmers' Alliances have manifested very commendable public spirit in demanding a fair share of legislative consideration; but if the present increase in the increase of noxious weeds is allowed to continue for another generation, the detriment to the farming interest will far exceed the injury from trusts and monopolies.

Carroll Co., Md. HAYSEED.

A Wire Gate.

A good plan to make a wire gate is to plant a round post forty-five inches high, five inches in diameter at the ground and four inches at the top, with oval top, with a half-inch round iron pin projecting above the top. Put a wooden thimble on this pin, and fasten the top wire of the gate to this thimble; this forms the top hinge. Take four strips of wood, one inch by two inches at one end, and three inches wide at the other end, sixteen feet long, for the rails. Take one piece of wood one and a-half inches by three at the top, and five inches at the bottom, for the back stile, forty-five inches long; for the front stile take one piece one and a-half by two and a-half inches, thirty-three inches long; put two of the rails on each edge of the stiles, the wide ends of the rails to the back stile, forty-two inches apart. The rails must cross each other, and be thirty inches apart on the front stile. Rivet the rails to the stiles at the point where the rails cross each other in the middle. Prop them six inches apart with a block; fasten the rails and the block with a rivet. This propping apart in the middle gives the gate the strength of an arch. Put a block six inches long behind the back stile to fit the bottom of the post; rivet it between the lower rails; these projecting ten inches past the back stile fork on the post and form the bottom hinge. Fasten the bottom wire ten inches from the bottom of the back stile, and to the lower end of the front stile, one foot above, fasten the middle wire to the front stile. Take the barbs out where

it goes through a hole in the back stile; form a loop on the end, and hang it on a pin higher up the post; this carries the back end of the gate. Fasten the top wire to the top of the front stile, pass it through a slot or fork in the top of back stile, and fasten it to thimble on top of post. This carries the front of the gate. The wire holds the gate up and the weight of the gate keeps the wire stretched tight and the hinges are formed without additional expense.



In the engraving, the upper figure shows the plan, and the lower one the elevation of the gate, as hung.

The latch is hung between the middle and top wires; the back end is fastened to both wires, which act as a spring in moving the latch; the front of the latch is hung to the top wire to hold it up. Hinge the latch to the opposite side of the stile with wire loosely. When the latch strikes the slide, it does not jam as it does with the common keeper. A lifting latch should never be used on a large gate, as a little sag in the gate prevents it from working. A horizontal latch and a perpendicular slide give less trouble, as the sag in the gate affects it the least. I use the severest kind of barb wire. Plenty of gates are necessary on the farm, and on this plan gates, posts and all, cost but little by the dozen.

J. J. BALDWIN.

Howard Co., Md.

To Estimate Value of Fertilizers.

Multiply the per cent. of ammonia, phosphoric acid and potash stamped on the bags by 20, cutting off the decimals if any; this will give the ingredients in pounds in a ton of 2000 lbs.

Multiply the number of pounds of nitrogen by 19; this will give its cost in cents per ton.

Multiply the amount of potash by 5 for its value.

And that of phosphoric acid, available, by 6 for that.

Add these three products and you will have its actual value. Fertilizer men in the cities charge about \$2.50 per ton to ship, mix and bag per ton over actual cost of ingredients.

Thus, a bag stamped nitrogen 4.30 per cent., would contain 6.1 lbs., worth \$16.34 per ton. Phosphoric acid, 10.35 per cent., or 207 lbs., by 6 equals \$12.42. Potash, 7.04 per cent., or 140.8 lbs., equals \$7.04. Total value \$35.80. But it would be composed of 700 lbs. dissolved bone black, 500 lbs. dissolved bone meal, 200 lbs. dried blood, 200 lbs. nitrate of soda (Chili saltpetre), 100 lbs. sulphate of ammonia, 200 lbs. mu-

riate of potash, 100 lbs. sulphate of potash. Total 2000 lbs. The value of a bag is one-tenth of the ton price and its ingredients in the same ratio.

Prof. Wilbur F. Massey.



The Orchard and Garden recently presented in its columns a portrait of this gentleman, well known for so many years to our readers, that we are glad to reproduce it in THE AMERICAN FARMER.

Mr. Massey, who is widely recognized as an effective writer for the agricultural and horticultural press, was born in Accomac county, Va., September 30, 1839. Was educated at Washington College, Md., and Dickinson College, Pa., and studied civil engineering under Prof. Gillespie, of Union College, N. Y., and, for a while before the war, was engaged in railroad surveys from Minnesota to the Rio Grande. Returning to Virginia, just before the war, he started a nursery business, which was interrupted by hostilities. After the war, he went to Chestertown, Kent county, Md., and once more embarked in the nursery business, mainly as a florist, and was the first to begin the summer propagation of roses and the mailing of young plants in winter. Losses outside his business caused him to make an effort to recover by removal to Baltimore county, which dull times made a failure, and for some years he engaged in managing for others. In 1886 he was invited to organize the Agricultural Department of the Miller School of Albemarle county, Va., which he did, and conducted for several years to the perfect satisfaction of the authorities of the school. During this time he was twice offered the professorship of agriculture in the Virginia Agricultural College, at Blacksburg, but could not see his way clear to accept. At the organization of the North Carolina College of Agriculture, he was offered the chair of horticulture and botany, which he accepted, and a few months later was elected also horticulturist of the North Carolina Agricultural Experiment Station.

A Complete Fertilizer.

Twelve hundred pounds acid phosphate contains 10 per cent. available phosphoric acid; 600 pounds cotton

seed meal contains 8 to 9 per cent. ammonia; 200 pounds kainit contains 12 per cent. potash. When mixed, will yield 8 per cent. phosphoric acid, 1.98 per cent. potash, and 1.08 per cent. ammonia, and will cost no more than \$19 per ton, and is no doubt just as good, if not better, than we have been paying \$30 per ton for. Just think of that! Given just for the asking from the North Carolina Station, from a knowledge-box that has got lots more that will no doubt be given if asked for.

To estimate the value of that information the way most everything is estimated nowadays—in numbers and dollars—to make a big showing by taking the whole country, by saying a farmer can save \$5 in grinding up his corn stalks (which may cost him \$10 in labor), putting the number at 50,000 — \$250,000. Now take the fertilizers the farmer buys, with a net saving of \$11 per ton, and it will run into the millions. We are going to give the above mixture a fair and impartial trial on our land, believing it to come from a station where the president don't allow any buncombe in his establishment, and they will find we know how to appreciate a good thing when presented to us, and can show our gratitude.

JON E. CAKE.

THE ANIMAL AND THE LAND.

The land of the farmer sustains the same relation to the plant growth upon it that the manger does to the animal which feeds out of it. The animal can feed and subsist only upon what food substances are put within its reach, and so it is with the plant. Unless the elements of its growth and proper development are furnished to it, and these in available shape, its attempt at growth must be a failure. So the lesson for us is to care for the manure and to apply it freely.

A PRODUCING RATION.—The main source of revenue to the dairyman is the ability of each particular cow of his herd to eat, digest and assimilate more than enough food to maintain the animal at rest, and to convert that surplus food into milk. We get from a maintenance ration, nothing; from a producing ration, revenue.

Poultry Yard.

Practical Suggestions.

If you have not already attended to it, one of these bright spring mornings mix a bucket of whitewash, stir with it several tablespoonfuls of carbolic acid; apply it to the poultry house inside and out. Remove the nests and treat them in the same way. Take out the roosts and saturate them with kerosene. Rake out whatever litter may have accumulated, burn it and sprinkle the floor with lime. Open the door, win-

dows, if there are any, and use any other means of ventilation there may be, in order to dry the premises as much as possible before the fowls return for the night. Replace the roosts and nests in the evening and put clean broken straw or soft hay in the boxes. Have the nest in dark places, as the fowls will then use them in preference to less convenient locations. Only the early broods should be hatched in the poultry house; the hens for the later broods should be set elsewhere. After the weather becomes warm make the nests for sitters upon the ground, or on an inverted sod hollowed out in the middle and lined with straw.

If there are no coops on hand they should be built now, white-washed, and put under shelter until needed. It would be advisable at the same time to build a feed coop. A neat one can be made by cutting three-inch strips into lengths of four feet, two strips 16 feet long, thus making four pairs. Lay two of these pieces about two feet apart and nail laths cut in half upon them, allowing sufficient spaces between the laths to admit a well grown chick. The four sides formed in this way are then joined together and covered with laths or boards; boards are better, as they protect the chicks in rainy or very hot weather. If two coops are built, it is better to have the laths upon one of them close enough to exclude chicks more than a few weeks old. A cheaper coop can be built of fence rails or other rough lumber, but one of some kind will be found necessary.

When other coops are required for broods, it is better to set them upon boards; the first hatches, in warm sunny corners, those coming later, in shady places. Be careful to have no part of the coop floors exposed for the rain to beat upon and run inside, chilling the broods. After the hens are allowed to run at large with their broods, the coops should be well aired every bright day and sprinkled occasionally with a weak solution of carbolic acid and water. With a common watering pot, or a greenhouse hose, two or three dozen coops can be attended to in a very few minutes, but either of these should be well rinsed afterward, as carbolic acid is very injurious to plants.

The early broods are the most valuable, either for market or for next year's flock, and should be well cared for. If the first hens to hatch are fairly successful it is better to give each one her own chicks only, except that when two varieties of thoroughbreds are hatched in separate broods, it is better to mix the colors and thus prevent the mothers from distinguishing between the chicks. Later in the season when two hens hatch about the same time all of the chicks may be given to one of them and the other set again.

Chicks should be fed at least four times a day for the first few days after they are hatched, after that three times, upon scalded meal mixed dry enough to crumble. They will not require water for the first eight or ten days; then it may be supplied by filling a fruit can, inverting it upon a flower-pot saucer and putting a large nail under one edge. After the chicks have arrived at broiler size, wheat and cracked corn are the best growing food for them. Never feed them more than they will eat at one time. If you provide clean coops, clean drinking water, clean food and feed regularly, you will be successful in raising chickens; but filth, disease and discouragement go together in the poultry business.

Probably the care of fowls looks like a very tedious occupation and deters many from giving it their attention; but did any of you who keep a cow, for instance, for milk and butter, ever consider if you put upon paper every item in the care of old Suke, such as the amount of bran she is fed, how much meal, the way they are mixed, how often fed, the vegetables you have found the best for producing milk and those you have decided unsuitable, milking, the care of the cream, churning and butter making, and numerous other details, what a list of facts could be accumulated. Hardly an hour's work every day is required to keep a hundred hens profitably. If poorly equipped for it, and managed in a slipshod manner, poultry keeping will demoralize the highest character, but, if everything is at hand when needed and ordinary judgment is used, raising several hundred broilers or keeping a hundred hens for eggs is very light work indeed. To realize the greatest profits and the most pleasure, get thoroughbred poultry. Eggs of almost any breed can be purchased now at a price that will amount to only a few cents a head upon the flock you would be able to produce in several years. Aside from the pleasure of having an evenly marked flock of handsome fowls to show your friends, you will find them decidedly more profitable than the mongrel. Then too, you cannot help taking pride in them and will be more apt to give them, proper attention. H. R. STEIGER.

Laurel Md.,

Success With Poultry.

To be successful with poultry requires as much skill, attention and patience as do any others of the farm industries. The business is one which must be carried on with system and regularity and with all the proper accessories, if one would realize the large profits which are popularly accredited to it. Many losing and discouraging ventures are made every year in this direction, just because of failure to conform to the necessary conditions. It is not enough that the best varie-

ties of fowls be secured and that ample quarters and ranges be provided, though these are very important factors. It is on the way of daily feeding as much as on any other condition, that the success depends. All the good resolves of the beginning must be kept. All the first attentions must be persisted in throughout. The novelty must not wear off. It may be tiresome work and irksome to keep up the constant, unremitting study of just what kinds of food will be most relished, and which will be most productive of fat or eggs according to requirement.

Fowls should be fed at regular intervals and never given more food than they will readily eat. If they tire of a mixture of corn-meal and wheat bran moistened with warm water or sour milk, vary the diet for a time with parched corn, scalded wheat, boiled potatoes, turnips or cabbages, not forgetting meat scraps and ground bones. Persevere in this kind of attention, first and last and all the time, then with the quarters kept warm, dry, and clean, and free from vermin, there will be encouragement and satisfaction in the business, and no wondering "why the hens don't lay."

In addition to my record of eggs for December, 648, for January, 980, I send for February, 1412, and for March, 1860; a steady increase of eggs, you see, under my way of treatment, with a dozen or more of the flock off laying duty in the sitting department. S. N.

Horticulture.

Theory—Practice—Waste.

The management and general care of trees, vines and plants on paper is one thing, whilst the actual planting, pruning, cultivation, etc., is another thing. Ability to nicely perform the paper operations is, in most cases, of a widely different character from that which successfully masters the operations in the field. It is easier to preach vigorously than to practice correctly; easier to criticize than to perform. A few years back, two circuit court judges, while strolling over my place and conversing upon everything else but legal decisions, finally drifted into a discussion on corn growing; the representative of the more northern part of the peninsula, being somewhat liberal in his mathematics, argued out an ideal yield that caused his "brother" to feel that an explanation was due me, and it came something in this manner: "Now, let me tell you how the Judge gets his big corn crops: Just before he cuts his corn off, he goes through his field and selects one of the largest and finest hills of corn he can find; plucks the ears from that hill, shells and measures the corn thereof; then the obtaining of a large crop is reduced, you see, to a simple arithmetical problem that any school-boy can perform.

There are a certain number of hills to the acre; and, if one hill yields three pints of shelled corn (?), three thousand hills (at same rate) will produce one hundred and forty bushels (corn planted in check rows—rows three feet ten inches apart each way)."

Now the Judge's corn crop, while mathematically correct, when forced to the uncharitable and unwavering test of the half-bushel measure, will be found no more inaccurate and impracticable than fifty per cent. of the paper cultivation of the present day, directing, exhorting and commanding finespun methods of preparing the soil, planting, manuring, pruning, etc., of orchards. However learned as to the published results and achievements of others, it is absolutely and indispensably essential that all operations of a practical nature that relate to the growing of fruit, or any other crop, except that of mortgages, be guided by good common sense, born of real practice.

I know men, unable to read or write, that have as fine orchards and grow as fine fruit and realize as large net proceeds to the acre as any of the most intelligent growers. This, of course, is no argument against general education, but one rather in favor of special education, with proper natural foundation. The inability to read, while it carries with it many sore deprivations and disadvantages, has at the present day, in so far as relates to fruit growing, some advantages, too. To him who is ignorant of the wholesale introduction of novelties at "high protective" prices, there are saved vexations and wrath-provoking disappointments, that so frequently soil the moral conduct of the piously inclined and educated planter, who in a progressive spirit gives money, time and land for scores of new varieties, in all respects inferior to those he already had. These losses are, in a great measure, taxed upon the readers, who become not infrequently the butt end of jokes highly enjoyed by the man unable to read, and therefore holds only to that which he knows to be good. If there ever was a species or kind of ignorance that is bliss, the writer would vote it, ignorance of nine-tenths of the so-called valuable improvements in the varieties of our fruits.

In face of all the great waste growing out of this apparent progressiveness, one inebriate might, with nearly the same propriety, preach temperance reform to another, as for one fruit grower to write for others to read, of the profligacy involved in the planting of the many fruit novelties. Thrift, progress, intelligence, are popularly assigned as the reasons for buying the untried wonders, but when the bottom facts are reached, it is the great propelling power of self, after all. Fruit growers, as a rule, contain no better clay in their make-up than the rest of mankind, and are

therefore fond of a deal that has promise of pecuniary profit in it. To get the "run" of something new—to have for example, Russian apricots by the wagon-load before your neighbor has any trees planted—affords a temporary monopoly, a vein of the best ore which even the bright visions, begotten by fertile imaginings, gives just a slight taste of happiness. Though a few years are certain to puzzle the planter with the question, where are the apricots?

J. W. KERR.

Denton, Md., March 16th, 1891.

Strawberries.

The number of varieties of the strawberry, since cross-fertilization and pot planting have grown into use, is legion, with the number constantly on the increase. If we are to believe the introducers, there never have been so many good varieties as now. Yet some of the older sorts will hold their own, notably Wilson's Albany. Yet general opinion is tending in the direction that a perfect flowering variety, *i. e.*, that contain the male and female flowers on the same stalk, is not so heavy a bearer nor produce as fine fruit as the others.

But, like most of the other small fruits, it has been found that soil has rather more to do with their product than climate, as potent a factor as it is. Of all soils, a rich, cold, damp one seems the best, although they do fairly well on others.

Frequent discussions have arisen among growers as to the relative merits of hill, drill and matted rows. Perhaps there is no essential difference in the three methods of planting named, and it is a question whether the great trouble of keeping the drills free from grass, in whatever way it may be done, whether by hoe, cultivator or mulching, may not nearly equalize the profits of the drill and matted row system. Now it is safe to say that all varieties are not equally vigorous growers or bearers. Some seem to succeed well anywhere, and with little or no care; others the reverse. Of the 88 varieties mentioned in the strawberry bulletin of the Maryland station, 15 only, of all, excelled the matted rows in weight of berry; but one berry of the matted row, the Parry, far excelled those of the hills, and was a perfect strawberry.

It is agreed that the strawberry that remains in bearing the longest is, upon the whole, the most profitable. And here comes the striking part: the Triumph de Gand yielded but a single picking to the 18 days of the Crescent. Another thing is worth noting—that only five were marked as being "too soft." How far this was due to the exceeding rainy season is unknown.

Of manures, the best is "decayed vegetable matter or well rotten stable manure," and the best mulch, pine straw, says Mr. Oemler, of Georgia, in the Agricultural Report of 1885.

Pistillate Varieties of Strawberries.

A common objection among berry growers to the pistillate varieties of strawberries is the trouble of "planting two kinds to get one," forgetting the fact that the pistillates, when properly fertilized, usually outbear the staminate two to one. Close-observing growers have long been aware of this fact, and do not consider it troublesome to plant staminate and pistillate sorts in alternate rows in order to produce the requisite cross-fertilization. The old Hovey seedling, so well known to our fathers of years ago, was one of this sort, and among the first cultivated pistillate varieties grown. In more recent years, quite a large number of most excellent pistillate varieties have been originated and introduced, and each succeeding sort claimed by its introducers to be more prolific than any yet introduced; all of which, to the initiated, has to be taken with a certain degree of allowance. It is gratifying, however, to know that great improvements have been made along this line, and varieties exist to-day that seemingly produce as many and as fine berries as the plants are capable of bringing to maturity. Among the best, and those that are now recognized as the standard sorts suitable for almost every variety of soil and climate, are the Bubach No. 5, Crescent, Warfield No. 2, Haverland, and several other pistillates of more recent introduction.

More important, even than the fact of greater productiveness, is their habit of late blooming, which is a protection against late frosts. This might seem an indication that the pistillates were mostly late varieties, but such is rarely the case. Although late in blossoming, they mature and ripen in a wonderfully short time, and the trouble often occurs that the staminate varieties planted among them are too early in blooming to properly fertilize them. Too much care cannot be taken to select proper varieties for this purpose. Many of the agents engaged in selling plants often fail to mention the necessity of fertilizing positive pistillate varieties at all, thus leading to much loss and disappointment. This fact has frequently come under my notice, and I have even known instances where the grower himself ignored the advice to plant staminate sorts among them, thinking it only a new fangled notion, and afterwards wondering at his failure and condemning a valuable variety. As to the best manner of mixing the two kinds, I have always endeavored to get every third or fourth row planted with a staminate, and usually this is a highly successful and satisfactory method.

Another method practiced among some, and seemingly more successful, is to mix the plants before sorting or planting; simply taking the two kinds when gotten up in the

rough, and mixing them with a fork, and then planting all together. Another, and I think a better, way is to plant every alternate plant with first one and then the other variety. This latter plan gives a more even distribution of pollen and, I believe, induces greater productiveness, but has the disadvantage of mixing the two kinds inseparably in the crate, which makes it against them in the market. Among the best sorts for fertilizing purposes might be mentioned the Kentucky, Downing, Wilson, May King, Sharpless, and more recently the Michel's Early, some being more abundant in pollen than others, and the careful grower will soon learn to adapt the proper kinds to each other. The question of influence of the staminate over the pistillate varieties in transmitting their peculiarities of size, flavor, shape and color, to the perfected fruit, is still an unsettled question among many growers and writers, but has been clearly demonstrated in the experience of the writer to be a fact. R. S. COLE.

Harman's, Md.

The Tomato.

This fruit, originally used in the south of Europe for soups and sauces, has become so generally used for so many purposes and is so widely cultivated that a word or two may not be amiss as to the best varieties, the kind of culture to be given, and the manure that should be used on them.

Out of the numberless varieties grown at our experiment station, they recommended Ignotum, Paragon, Favorite Belle, Fulton Market, and New Jersey, for "general culture," although these were not the earliest, being excelled in this respect by Conqueror, Earliest of All and Alpha. And some of these have been commended elsewhere: Paragon in Alabama and Michigan; Ignotum in Kansas and New York.

The prevailing opinion seems to be to get the plants started in a hot-bed as early as possible, to transplant two or more times to get a stocky growth, and to do this cut back the main stem five or six inches, and pull off any branches that may start at the bottom and some from the sides to secure the best yield. Clay land cannot be deemed the best soil, nor fertilizers the best manure. The idea that land can be made too rich seems exploded since trimming the vines has been practiced. Of all manures tried, stable manure seems to be generally preferred.

Good fruit is the direct result of seed saved from the best early maturing ones, although good results have followed the use of that from inferior. Ten years, says the botanist of Cornell University, seems to be the life of a variety. The smoothest fruit does not grow on poor land, while the cooking qualities seem to belong to no single variety.

Grafting.

The uses of grafting and budding, as applied to fruit trees, may be briefly stated as follows:

1. The rapid increase or propagation of valuable sorts of fruits not easily raised by seeds or cuttings, as is the case with nearly all varieties.
2. To renew or alter the heads of trees, partially or fully grown, producing in two or three years, by heading in and grafting, a new head, bearing the finest fruits on a formerly worthless tree.
3. To render certain foreign and delicate sorts of fruits more hardy by grafting them on robust stocks of the same species native to the country, as the foreign grape on the native; and to produce fine fruits, in climates or situations not naturally favorable, by grafting on another species more hardy, as, in a cool climate and damp, strong soil, by working the peach on the plum.
4. To render dwarf certain kinds of fruits by grafting them on suitable stocks of slower growth, as in the case of the pear on the quince, the apple on the Paradise stock, etc.
5. By grafting several kinds on the same tree, to be able to have a succession of fruits from early to late in a small garden.
6. To hasten the bearing of seedling varieties of fruit, or of such as are a long time coming to fruitage, by grafting them on the branches of full grown or mature bearing trees.



Cleft Grafting.

Thus a seedling pear, which would not produce fruits on its own roots in a dozen years, will

generally begin to bear the third or fourth year if grafted on the extremity of the bearing branches of a mature tree.

The proper time for budding trees is from June to the middle of September. The time for grafting is as soon in the spring as the sap is in motion, which commences earliest with the cherry and plum, and ends with the pear and apple. The most favorable weather for the work is a mild atmosphere, with occasional showers. Cleft grafting is, of all the modes practiced, the one in common use. The head of the stock is first cut off horizontally with a sharp knife. Then, with a light hammer and splitting knife, make a cleft about two inches deep. Prepare the scion by sloping its lower end on both sides in the form of a wedge about an inch and a-half long, leaving it a little thicker on the outer

edge. Push down the scion carefully into the cleft, fitting its inner bark on one of its sides to that of one side of the stock. When the stock is larger than the scion, insert two grafts. The scions being fitted into the clefts, cover all the cut places with wax, and tie round with a strip of bagging or a wisp of moist hay. Whip grafting is used where the stocks are large. Here the graft is placed at one side of the large stock, which is sloped and tongued to receive it. This is a good method also where the stock and graft are the same size.

Grafting wax of excellent quality may be made by melting together three parts of rosin, three parts of beeswax and two parts of tallow. While yet warm it may be worked with a little water, like shoemakers' wax, with the hand.

Old Time Gardens.

"As rich as a garden" was the old saying, and it meant something real and substantial. Among farmers formerly, it seems to us, there was more care to have an area of garden ground fenced off adjoining the dwelling, for the growing of all kinds of culinary vegetables in their various seasons. Generally the soil was spaded up and the richest and shortest of the barn-yard manure was applied without stint, until, as the years went on, the earth became to a great depth of a black color and very friable. Seeds planted in this favorably adapted soil grew apace and yielded bountiful increase. All the work of cultivation was done with spade, iron rake and light hoe, and in this way many odd times of leisure among the hands from day to day were economically appropriated.

In these later years the plan seems to be preferred by many of growing all the kitchen vegetables in the field, and cultivating with implements drawn by the horse. What is wanted specially in growing vegetables is that there be enough ready stimulus in the earth to make quick maturity and consequently tenderness of fibre and delicacy of taste, as well as liberal yield. Ground that will produce a good crop of corn or wheat is not sufficient to do this. The soil must be full of humus, a result of repeated manurings with vegetable manures through years.

We do like the old time gardens, the rich gardens, the well stocked and well kept gardens. They linger in our imagination as fondly remembered dreams. They always bespoke wise provision, convenience and good living. One of these in particular we have just now in our mind's eye. In it there were the beds of onions, just wide enough for a person to hoe over it conveniently, working from both sides, and the rows just far enough apart to admit of the light garden hoe between. How clean of weeds they were, and how the stalwart onions ranged like battalions of soldiers, and all around

the borders in pleasant contrast were crisp, juicy radishes in picket lines, so to speak. Ah! those radishes, what an addition to a breakfast. Then there were in close proximity the beds of blood red and salmon colored beets in luxuriant masses, not tough and fibrous, but melting into sweetness; and rows of peas and sugar corn, lima and bush beans, lettuce, cucumbers and cabbages, tomatoes, and what not—all disposed with order and regularity and seeming to vie with each other in the race of luxuriant growth to be ready to garnish the table and minister to the appetites of the rural household. Would you like to have such a garden? Well, you may if you will. Its only a matter of a little well-directed skill, industry and forethought.

Garden Seeds.

The catalogues which come to us nowadays from the seedsmen abound in showy pictures and marvelous descriptions of "new and improved varieties" of vegetables for the farm and garden, each one, of course, claiming superiority for his stock in trade, and that everything is offered at the lowest possible prices; and if one has the ready change it is very easy to sit down and order four or five dollars' worth of tubers, bulbs or seeds from the attractive lists. In due time Uncle Sam will bring your orders all done up in neat packages with directions when and how to do the planting.

So far so good. But it is only the beginning, though a good beginning, if the dealer has acted honestly, and of course there are anticipations of great returns from the venture. But there is a great deal of hard work ahead for somebody—much watching and waiting before the time of increase. All along the way annoyances from besetting insects intent on pillage and destruction may be expected. The wary potato bug will have to be circumvented, the frisky cabbage flea must be outwitted, the stealthy grub worm must be looked after, and the underground mole must be guarded against. If all of these incidental calamities can be successfully prevented by due forethought and timely care, then, with favoring conditions of weather and a skillful culture, much satisfaction may be realized from the packages of the seedsmen. We believe that the seeds which the dealers send out are, as a general thing, reliable, and only need a fair trial to prove their value; and yet it is not an uncommon thing to hear complaints that they will not germinate, or that their products do not tally with what is claimed for them. Too often it may be the foundation of these complaints lies in the negligence or the want of skill of the cultivator. Sometimes in the open grounds the seeds are planted too deep, and sometimes their vitality is destroyed by the too great heat of

hot beds. There is a correct way of doing everything on the farm and in the garden, and this is best learned by experience and careful observation.

Inquiry About Onions.

I have a plot of ground containing about a quarter of an acre which I design planting with onion seed to make bulbs for sets and pickling. Will you please give directions about preparing soil, how and when to plant, and what varieties? L. B.

REPLY.—All soils are not equally well adapted for the growing of onions. They do best in ground naturally inclined to moisture, but not springy, and all the better if deep and rich. A light loam is excellent; make as fine as possible with plow, harrow and garden rake. Of course the cultivating must be done with a narrow cultivator and hoe. So, make the drills two feet apart and four inches deep. Into these sow a liberal supply of compost consisting of dry, fine poultry manure, bone meal, ashes and plaster. Cover this over with the soil and make very smooth and then pat down gently with broad hoe or board. Make the seed drills one inch deep, and that all the plants may come up in regular line, for easy weeding, and not be scattered over several inches in width, let them be not over about an inch wide. A short peg in the end of a stick like a rake handle, will make the drills readily. After covering the seeds, pat down very smoothly and evenly. As soon as the needle-like plants appear above ground scarify the surface, so that all germs of weeds just appearing may be destroyed. This is a very important step, as will be fully realized later on in the work of cultivation. For the weeds must be kept down, and that this may be done, they must be taken at the earliest start. To once let them get the advantage of you, is a discouraging business. Keep the plants clean of weeds and the ground stirred well, and when ripe enough to gather, which may be known by their tops becoming pale and whitish and falling over, pull up on drying days and thoroughly dry before storing.

We have often wondered why more onions for sets and pickling were not raised in our section of country. They nearly always command a good price, and their growing is not difficult. Besides, their yield under good cultivation such as above outlined is surprising. The receipts from a quarter, or even an eighth of an acre of these wholesome bulbs, will go a good way towards paying the farmer's grocery bills. The white silver skin or Portugal, is most desirable for main crop; they are early, medium sized and mild; other good varieties are Danvers Yellow and Red Weathersfield. The seed should be got in as soon as the condition of the ground will admit.

The Grange.

Annual Report of Lecturer of Maryland State Grange of 1890.

The Grange started some twenty years ago to organize the Farmers of America—to educate them as to their rights and the means of securing those rights. In the beginning, and since, it has encountered all kinds of difficulties and opposition. Not the least of its stumbling blocks has been the ridicule with which it has been opposed.

Martin Luther said "the devil himself cannot stand ridicule." Very likely not; but what the devil himself cannot stand, Truth and Justice have faced times without number, and in the end came out victorious every time.

Among other things we were twitted with the absurdity of making woman a co-worker in the mighty undertaking we assumed, of introducing her into our Grange Halls and giving her equal rights with ourselves. Unscathed by the jest we hurl back the proud boast, that we were the pioneers in the long step forward, in the civilization of this nineteenth century, of according to woman, her true position, that of being the real equal of man.

We regret that our good brothers of other Farmers' Organizations of the country, whose unprecedented growth and influence were rendered possible by the lessons in organization and the rights of the people, which the Grange has been faithfully teaching long years before they came into existence, should have omitted this necessary feature of our splendid model which they have adopted.

In all that is likely to prove durable and lasting we are almost identical in our objects, and in the struggle for our common aim, we regret that these organizations, our good friends, our brothers and, in a sense, our legitimate offspring, should ignore so potent a factor in the accomplishment of our work as the co-operation of our farmers' wives and farmers' daughters.

Without the help of the women, the Grange could never have accomplished its aims, and the farmers' cause in America to-day would be in worse plight than it is.

When we consider that the prizes of the Universities of the world are being awarded to competitors from the other sex, when the learned professions of Law and Medicine are being opened to them, when we take note that the great Johns Hopkins University of this City of Baltimore is about to open a Medical School for the women of America, and before many years Virchow and Koch and Pasteur and the other great scientists of the medical world will be rivaled in the healing art by explorers whose patience never wearies, whose firm but gentle grasp never relaxes until success crowns their efforts. When the Honorable Thomas Reed, of Maine, the speaker of the House of Representatives of the Fifty-first Congress of the United States of

America, and the Honorable John Sherman, United States Senator from the great State of Ohio and other leaders of political world agree that the clean sweep of one of the parties at the late general election was caused by the widespread indignation of our women on account of the high prices of their purchases, which they attributed to the financial policy of the party which now dominates the land.

I say when we consider these things and other things, no Granger nor true man of any calling, need blush at these pitiful thrusts of ridicule. He should be proud, and the Grange is proud, of our record on this as on other subjects. We claim, that seeing the necessity of things and the natural drifts of events, we took time by the forelock, we, the simple minded farmers, and pointed out to the other callings and industries and professions, the true line of procedure on this great question.

Why, my friends, think for a moment, picture to yourself for an instant all the women of this great country of ours, or even the women of the rural districts of our country, as of one mind on any given subject. What must inevitably be the consequence? Why there is no power that could resist them. We gray-headed old men who have wives know it and acknowledge it, and the young men who have not wives, but who have a spark of chivalry in their bosoms, know it and must acknowledge it.

Sensible men must admit that the women are as much interested in the future welfare of the country as we are. Are they not more interested? Are they not the mothers of the generation which will inherit the land, when our work is done and we are gone? And the ties between mother and child are the closest and the sacredest that are known on earth.

From all of which we conclude that no farmers' organization, I say nothing of other organizations, I prefer to speak of that which I do know, and I say that no farmers' organization should be without the voices and influence of the farmers, wives and the farmers' daughters.

Another objection which has been made to the Grange, and which has had its influence in certain directions, is that it numbers among its membership persons inimical to the agricultural interests and who joined the organization to use it or to attempt to use it for their selfish purposes.

It is recorded on the pages of Holy Writ than in the earliest History of Christianity, the sublimest Code of Ethics ever propounded for the guidance of man, which had its inspiration in Heaven and God Himself as the Giver. Among the first Apostles, the chosen twelve, there was a Judas Iscariot, and he was a thief and a betrayer.

No human institution ever devised by the wit of man has been able to

keep out the rubbish. No wonder that in the Grange movement there should be some demagogues, time-servers, humbugs and seekers only for self-aggrandizement. We have never laid claim to infallibility but the aims we have in view are lofty and for the best interest of the country, and the materials we have used, for the attainment of our objects, have been and are for the most part pure and patriotic.

We set out to organize and to educate the Farmers of America as to their rights and to ameliorate their condition. We make war on the rights of no men nor body of men nor organization in our country. But we have made up our minds to have our own, and aided by good men and kindred societies in the land, we are going to have them.

We move not with the catch-words nor the shibboleths of any political party, but at the same time we declare that, that organization which claims to be national, and which fails to teach its members to vote for their own rights, had better close its doors and sell its fixtures and shut up shop and leave the business to those of bolder venture and of greater enterprise.

In the name of the Grangers and of the honest Farmers of Maryland—nay I will go further and claim for the time being to be the mouth-piece of the honest Farmers of America—I proclaim that we will accept nothing less than our rights, and we ask nothing more. We are not beggars or supplicants for public favor. We want no one to bear our burdens. Give us a free field and fair fight and we undertake to work out our own salvation. But in the great race we undertake, we do not intend to be handicapped by weights for other people's benefit.

And my friends, we have not labored in vain—there are signs of better times for the farmers. The day-dawn of light is yet small on the horizon, but we have reason to hope it will grow until the whole heavens blaze with the brightness of the prosperity of the agricultural people and of the other industrial classes and of the whole country as well.

There is hope that as intended by the Founders of the Government the farmers are about to reassume the patriotic roll of conservators of the sacred institutions of the country. Then there will be certainty of the perpetuation through the ages to come of the liberties for which our fathers spent their substance and their blood. And then we will have the fruition of the oft repeated boast that we have the greatest country that God's sun ever shone upon—the greatest and the best and where justice reigns triumphant—and the greatest because the justest and the best. Where every man shall enjoy the fruits of his own labor, or what is dearer to him, dearer to the heart of every true man, than life itself, where his wife

and his children shall enjoy the benefit of his toil.

We will have, not the millennium, but something almost as good, not the Poet's Dream—maybe—but something as beautiful and more substantial and grander far, the Patriot's Vision and the Patriot's Hope realized.

Let us stand together, and with our friends on the outside, shoulder to shoulder, and hand in hand and heart with heart—and the end is in sight.

A Memorial.

At the regular meeting of Brighton Grange No. 60, held February 18th, 1891, the following memorial of Thomas F. Lansdale was adopted, who, although he had removed his home to another county and was no longer a member of Brighton Grange, has been our master for five years.

WHEREAS, It has pleased our Divine Master to call our brother Thomas F. Lansdale to his reward above,

Resolved, That in the death of our past master Lansdale, we have lost one whom each member of the Grange recognized as a brother in the best sense of the word. He was not only a good Patron, but a warm personal friend; and we feel that his amiable nature was an invaluable force in building up this Grange from a small beginning to its present flourishing condition.

AUGUSTUS STABLER,
JOHN R. CLARK,
MARY A. GILPIN,
Committee.

ORCHARD GRASS.—A correspondent asks about sowing orchard grass with clover seed this spring on timothy land seeded last fall. If the ground is in good condition, that is, fertile and free of foul growth, sow the seed, the earlier the better, and one bushel and a half to the acre. It will make excellent pasture. It is one of the earliest grasses to start in the spring and the last to yield to frost in the fall. It stands drought well and is eaten with great relish by stock. If cut early will make good hay. We believe that orchard grass will ere long be much more generally cultivated than at present. It finds much favor with grazers of the states of the west and northwest. Seed of this grass can be bought now for about \$1.25 per bushel of fourteen pounds.

CLOVER.—As the time for sowing clover seed comes round again, be sure to scatter with a liberal hand, for the cost is not great; scant sowing is a loss, as any one is sure to realize who tries the plan. Make due allowance for some of the seeds washing away, some not germinating and some to be devoured by the birds. At four dollars or thereabout for the seed, clover becomes a cheap fertilizer.

The American Farmer

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WM. B. SANDS, } Editors and Publishers.

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At the office of THE AMERICAN FARMER are located the offices of the following organizations, each of which its proprietor, Wm. B. Sands is Secretary:

Maryland State Immigration Society.
Maryland State Farmers' Association
Maryland Horticultural Society.
Maryland Dairymen's Association.
Maryland State Grange, P. of H.

BALTIMORE, APRIL 1, 1891.

Removal.

From and after the date of this issue, the office of THE AMERICAN FARMER will be at the northwest corner of BALTIMORE and NORTH STREETS, opposite the Sun and American buildings, with entrances at 228 E. Baltimore street and No. 6 North street.

The location is in the immediate centre of the business district of the city, on two great thoroughfares, convenient to the postoffice and other public buildings, and here we shall always be glad to see the friends of the "Old Pioneer."

High Price of Mill-Staffs—What It Means.

Corn meal costing seventy cents per bushel, and all other mill-stuffs ranging proportionately high, and milk selling at twelve cents a gallon, and butter at thirty cents or less a pound, means emphatically that the dairyman cannot possibly realize any profit whatever from his business excepting by the utmost care for the economical management of the manurial deposits. Have you a barn-yard sloping well toward river, creek or gulch, with the rich and essential elements of production for future crops, passing off and going to irretrievable waste in the shape of lye-colored water by every rain? If so, do you not see that you have been hitting hard knocks through summer's heats and winter's cold, all to no practical purpose? This is

one of the numerous causes of the thread-bare story, that "farming don't pay." Farming never did and never will pay with such lack of wise provision. Your meal and bran for which you paid so much good money, and which your team hauled from the dealers over bad winter roads, at an additional expense of three dollars a day and your own time thrown in, have been under the circumstances well nigh a dead loss, and it is time you had turned over a new leaf and taken a new departure. Your manurial deposits must be guarded against every likelihood of waste if you would get the best returns from your labor and expenditures. But, some who read these hints may say, we are tired of hearing this everlasting harping on the manure subject. Well, that may be, but it is one of the most important of all the subjects bearing upon a farmer's profits and prosperity, and it is all to subserve this purpose that we keep up the harping. We have an interest in the farming industry and the farmer's success, and our aim is to help him in his work by timely suggestions.

Since writing the above we have read a communication in the *New York Tribune* by O. S. Bliss, in which he heroically comes to the defence of this wastefulness of the barn-yard resources, which we have been all along deprecating and earnestly trying to set farmers against. He says all fears of losses by washings of the manures are groundless, for he has made experiments in that wise, and so knows all about it. He says also that a little colored water often misleads persons who have a good reputation as shrewd observers, and that is no sign, because water is colored never so highly by contract with manure that is also loaded with fertilizing matter. If the process of leaching does not take the strength from a substance, why then does the housewife steep her coffee and tea to obtain their aroma, or whatever of exhilarating or nourishing properties they contain? Why is it, when she wants potash to make her old-fashioned soft soap, she pours water on the top of her ash barrel and lets it run through in the shape of lye? And why, too, is it that leached ashes are not considered half so valuable for agricultural purposes, as those not leached? If Mr. Bliss is persuaded in his own mind that leached manures are just as good for crops as those unleached, and deprived of some of their most active fertilizing properties, why not rest satisfied with enjoying the heresy without preaching it to others. Whether or not, "Ignorance is Bliss," we shall not consider it folly to be wise, at least on the leaching question. Brother Jasper need not despair of believers in his theory, that the "sun do move," so long as farmers do not believe that the washings from their barn-yards are any waste.

Green Oats for Milk Cows.

You cannot forecast the kind of weather we may have during the latter days of spring. It may be very dry, as has been the case in some years past. If so, a breadth of oats will come in very opportunely for the dairy. They should be cut just as they come into bloom, for if left till after this stage of growth they become fibrous and only portions of the stalk will be eaten. Cut at this time, they are not only excellent for immediate feeding, but when cured will make a good winter forage. Don't leave them till they are in milk for storing, for then imperfect grains would form and attract mice and rats on the mow. It is all folly to sow oats on poor ground for any purpose. The richer the soil the better. Then the growth is quick, large and abundant.

If it is desired to get a piece of land well set with grass, and especially with clover, timothy and orchard grass, sow these seeds with the oats and leave the ground as smooth as the harrow will make it.

The Gardeners' Club.

This association recently elected as officers for the ensuing year: William Fraser, president; E. A. Seidewitz, vice-president; William B. Sands, treasurer; Henry Bauer, secretary; John Wiedey, financial secretary, and Charles M. Wagner, librarian. The club meets in Knapp's Hall, Holliday street, Baltimore, on the second and fourth Monday of each month. The club will hold a spring exhibition of plants, cut flowers, floral designs, models of ribbon or carpet gardening, ornamental evergreens, etc., in the Academy of Music in this city, on Wednesday and Thursday, April 22 and 23. The premiums are liberal, and a fine show is expected, and there should be a generous patronage by the public. Schedules may be had of Henry Bauer, secretary, 1875 N. Gay street, or at THE AMERICAN FARMER office.

ARBOR DAY.—Governor Jackson has issued a proclamation designating Wednesday, April 8th, as Arbor day in Maryland, recommending that it be observed by the people of the State in planting trees, shrubs and vines, in the promotion of forest growth and culture, in the adornment of public and private grounds and ways, and in such other manner "as may be in harmony with the character of the day so set apart."

MESSRS. J. J. H. GREGORY & SON, Marblehead, Mass., send us a package of choice garden seeds. The senior has made the name of this house stand as a synonym of all that is progressive in seed growing and market gardening.

A Special Offer for April.

As our readers know, it has seldom been our custom to offer premiums or other inducements to procure subscribers to THE AMERICAN FARMER, which we have always tried to make, and which, as we believe, has always been worth the very moderate price charged for it; but, following the example of many similar publications, we now propose to offer our friends some slight recognition of their efforts to extend our circulation. We have procured a limited number of two beautiful pictures, works of real artistic merit, *fac-simile* reproductions of great works of great painters, and worthy of a place in every home. These are the "RUSSIAN WEDDING FEAST" and "NAPOLEON AT FRIEDLAND;" the first representing an episode of peace and love, the other one in war; brilliant in color, beautiful in finish, and far removed from the cheap and gaudy "chromos" which have been scattered broadcast. During the month of April, each new subscriber, and everyone whose name is already on our books who will remit the amount in arrears, including the subscription for the current year, will be entitled to receive his choice of either of the two premium pictures, safely encased in a tube, and postage prepaid.

Premium Pictures—Description of the Pictures—The Russian Wedding Feast.

Constantine Makoffsky, the artist of this great picture, selected for his subject the bride's first appearance in society. The husband and wife are represented standing at the head of the table and the guests and friends are merrily welcoming the young couple to the feast. With drooping eyes and face covered with blushes, the bride, conscious that every eye rests upon her, is a picture of innocence and loveliness. On one side of the table are seated the male members of the two families, patriarchs with long beards and clothed in rich brocaded garments, while on the other side are the ladies, dressed in rare laces and wearing the peculiar head-dress of the country. This picture has been exhibited in nearly every city in the United States and is now reproduced by the aquarelle process for the first time. Its size is 21 by 28 inches.

Napoleon at Friedland, 1807.

In 1887 this great treasure of art was purchased by Mr. Henry Hilton at the sale of the Stewart collection for the sum of \$60,000 and presented to the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, where it is daily surrounded by groups of admirers. It is the most wonderful painting of a battle scene ever produced on canvas; for Meissonier has there portrayed, by the truth of his figures, clearness of touch, precision of details and marvelous delicacy of his finish, the whole scene with photographic accuracy. In this picture we see Napoleon at the height of his glory, saluting with imperial gesture his favorite regiment, the Twelfth Cuirassiers, as it sweeps by him to charge the Russians at Friedland. The reproduction of this painting in convenient size has never before been attempted, because of the large number of figures and portraits in the original. Reproduced by the aquarelle process in full colors of the original. Size, 21 by 28 inches.

HOME DEPARTMENT.

The What To Do Club. OUR MOTTO.

Do what you can,
Not what you cannot;
Not what you think ought to be done,
Not what you would like to do,
Not what you would do if you had more time,
Not what somebody else thinks you ought to do,
But, do what you can.

A Seasonable Talk.

House-cleaning season is almost upon us, and it may not be amiss to give it some preliminary thought. Although we have made advances toward reform in that direction, we have yet some things to learn in order to adapt ourselves to the changes which seem to have taken place in our climate and the changes that certainly have come over our domestic conditions. There was a time when one might confidently take down stoves and take up carpets, feeling that winter had given place to spring, but such has not been our experience for years. Those of us who have presumed upon a warm spell, that set the blue birds wild with song and induced spring flowers to spread themselves open to the sunshine, and set our houses in summer order, have some to grief.

Unless there is, as there should be, a home room with a hearth fire always ready to counteract the effect of those wintry days that are sure to come lagging on when their fellows are almost forgotten, we should beware how we set aside the heating arrangements that have served us through the winter. Old housekeepers, like myself, have learned wisdom in this respect from experience, more or less painful, but those who have their experience yet to gather, should not be too eager to be about their spring work to heed our advice. A little indiscretion and persistence in their own untried way may lay some one upon a sick bed. When we once fall into this spring tide, we forget everything else and expose ourselves, as we would not dream of doing at other times. Open doors and windows expose us to air currents, whilst unusual exertion renders us most susceptible to cold, and we do not realize the danger, till a sore throat or stitch in the side proclaims the mischief done.

Do not begin too early, and when you set about it, have a cozy home room always ready to fall back upon. If not so favored as to have a generous fire-place in it that will keep a health-giving warmth always in waiting, then substitute an air-tight wood stove, in which a fire can be so quickly and easily started that no one will hesitate to do it on shortest notice or the slightest necessity.

If you have not already forsaken the old way of tearing all the house up at once, it is time you should give the newer and more approved methods a trial. Take either one room at a time, or one kind of work at once. Clean all the beds, closets and pantries first; next, garret and cellar. Then, when the way is clear and

weather permits, a good deal can be accomplished in a short time if you have suitable help and proper utensils. Every housekeeper should be liberally provided with brushes. There is one kind with long handle for the walls, another for windows, others for washing paint and brushing mattresses and bedsteads. A brush reaches into crevices and corners as no cloth can, and, although the brush costs something and old cloths do not, the difference in the work makes it worth the expense. If brushes are taken care of, they last for years, if not a lifetime. It should be borne in mind, when we attempt to emulate the example of our foremothers, that we have not such help as they had. With family servants trained to their own ways, and knowing who could be trusted, they might calculate to a certainty what could be done, and when; there was no question as to whose business it was; but the servants might reasonably be expected to do as they were told, whilst we must continually stand upon the order of our ordering lest we overlook the lines so carefully drawn in these days between the different departments of work, and our day's work is regulated by the clock, without regard to the exigencies of the case. No day worker appears before seven, although the best hours are then past, and at six everything is dropped or left for us to finish ourselves, if finishing is imperative—all of which makes it important that we use head wherever it will save hands or feet, and that is why we must take time by the forelock and map out our work.

Have a gallon jug filled with soft water and one half pound of borax dissolved in it, ready for use, and into each bucket of water for cleaning paint or windows, put about half a teacupful. It is not injurious to the paint, or hands, and cleans with little or no rubbing, or soap; use old flannel underclothing for cloths. Cold tea is best for washing wood work that is grained and varnished.

Save the skewers with which the butcher pins your meat together; they are so handy for getting into corners, especially of the window panes.

CERES.

I SAW something lately about a Boston society formed of those who pledged themselves to discard luxuries and confine themselves to good, plain living, and higher living morally and mentally. For the first time in my life, I had a yearning to be a Bostonian. But a really good idea is bound to spread itself now-a-days. We hardly know how much of our time, thought and means are given to things we would be better without. Habit and the customs of the community, so soon make of them seeming necessities, and even though with inward protest, we feel bound to do as those around us. I wonder if we will ever reach that sublime state of independence

when we will venture to do as we think best, regardless of other people's ways and opinions. If we do, and will then think well before we act, there will indeed be a revolution in the manner of living, and individuality will betray itself without fear or favor.

DOROTHEA DOOLITTLE.

I HAVE just finished a piece of work that I think is worth telling you all about. It is a slumber spread, made out of an old summer silk dress. I have a dear friend who is in declining health and has reached the point when she must spend part of her time during the day on her bed or couch. An afghan is too heavy to throw over her, and a regular down comfort too warm. I asked her one day if she had an old thin silk dress, as I had none, and she found one that was so cut up in ruffles and over-skirts, it seemed hopeless to attempt to bring it into shape, but I thought it worth trying. So I ripped every bit of it and pressed it out, and took pains to match figures in piecing. I got two sides, each one and three-quarter yards square, out of it. Then I took ten sheets of cotton wadding of the best quality and laid it between, distributing it as evenly as I could. I then pinned them together as you would fasten a comfort with tufts, in order to keep everything squarely in place, while I quilted it on my lap. I had not the slightest trouble in keeping it all smooth. I did the quilting as wide apart as would suffice to hold it all firmly, and when done used the narrowest ruffles to bind it. Silk of that kind is so light and warm, and the cotton also, that it is just what an invalid needs. When I saw the pleasure and comfort it was to her, I felt as if I would like to spend my life in making them for sick people. They are lovely for babies, too.

AMANDA A.

THOSE of us who are governed by the old rule and clean our bedsteads during the dark nights. March (the cleaning is done by daylight), had a pretty hard time of it this year, as the weather was against it. It is part of such operations to take the bedding, mattresses and all, out on porches or fence, where they are well beaten and freshened by a few hours of wind and sunshine, and when has there been enough time between showers to do it.

I dare say the majority, like myself, have had to wait and try how the thing will work when the moon is light. One old lady who was a notable housekeeper, seldom, if ever, had her beds washed. Her rule was eternal vigilance, with the aid of a brush. Every week her beds were thoroughly brushed with a stiff brush that reached everywhere, and, as she said, left nothing behind to hatch out. I doubt not her rule worked well, but there was not as much going to and fro in those days as now. We must be on guard against every bit of baggage that comes into the house, and double the guard for clothing that is carried

away to be washed, and the baskets in which it is carried. I saw it suggested somewhere lately that salt water should be used to wash beds, as insects cannot abide salt. Whatever we do, should be done quickly, or we will have double duty to perform all summer. I have tried my best to think up the lunch problem, but to no practical purpose. One thing I will say, however, that is, don't encourage the children to be notional in this or in regard to their eating at any time.

HELEN BLAZERS.

THANKS to BESSIE for her acknowledgment of my Saratoga chips recipe. I had not thought of the granite ware saucepan for frying them in; it would be excellent, also the egg-beater, if the chips did not fall through.

Now here's one of our southern ways for cooking sweet potatoes: Boil the potatoes done; take off, peel, cut into quarter-inch slices, butter the bottom and sides of an earthen or granite baking pan, or, if neither of these are to be had, an ordinary stove-pan will do; put in a layer of potatoes, dot with small pieces of butter and a light sprinkle of sugar, continue so until the pan is full; add water enough to dissolve the sugar; bake a nice brown. To be eaten as a vegetable.

I am expecting quite a lot of information relative to lunches, and will be very much obliged to all who will "rise and speak in meeting." I would like to give my experience relative to boys' knees; but forbear, for I tried every device, when marble season was on hand, "reinforcing," patching, etc. I even put a pad of pebbles on the knee once, but nothing deterred the little fellow from going on his knees, and as a final resort, I kept a pair of pants to loan him; he had to wear his patches at play, which patches were renewed frequently, and the loaned pair would not be allowed unless he would positively promise not to go on his knees. My time is up, so good-bye.

TRY AGAIN.

I GAVE only a casual glance, I thought inquiry was made for general LUNCHEONS. Entering into details, I find the subject was for children's lunches. There is but one reply, the philosophy of which is as grand as it is simple, "fruit, always." It is the ideal food; it will supply all needs, refresh and purify. If, at first glance, it may seem insufficient, then have home-made crackers made with Health Food Company's Fine Granulated Wheat; use Horsford's Bread Preparation, and mix with cream, if you have it. These nicely baked, are appetizing and very nourishing. There is also a very nice preparation called "Bread and Fruit." Make a stiff batter as for bread; put it in a large pan or a sheet-iron with just the edges turned up; smooth the bread nicely; then place on it rows of apples, peaches, pears, or even berries, the

three first named should be peeled and sliced; sprinkle sugar on top; bake until done. This is delicious, keeps moist, and is very nourishing. It is a German recipe; they call it "coven." In place of fruit, they sometimes use sugar and cinnamon. I prefer the fruit, and as my way combines the same process as my bread of life, I gave it the name of bread and fruit, and, like the celebrated "Castoria," I have known children to cry for it and adults long for it. In the winter, the California dried fruits can be used to advantage. Stew the apricots, peaches or nectarines; do not have much syrup on them; place a thick layer on top of the bread; bake until done. The diet of children is an important subject; at home, as a rule, the eatables and drinkables set before children are not considered as having any special bearing upon the education, or connection with their character, even though there may be an impression that they have something to do with bodily health. When it becomes generally known that the food we eat bears a direct relation to character, for good or ill, as well as to health of body, parents will be as earnest in their choice of a dietary for their children as in the selection of the best courses of study for them. In many families there have been radical changes, and their home table offers more healthful food to the student than in former times; but how is it with the school lunch baskets? The reformatory influence needs to penetrate so far as to reach there and eliminate from them the lard pie crust, mince meat, spice cake, pickles, and all their indigestible belongings. Nice brown bread, turn-overs filled with stewed fruit, the crust shortened with cream, apples, oranges, figs, raisins and nuts, are safe edibles for the lunch baskets, and can be disposed of, as a rule, to the last crumb with appetites more natural than fashionable, and without doubt will have their share in maintaining robust health. All things being equal, it is safe to say that children brought up mainly on simply-prepared cereal foods, milk, fruits and vegetables, unaccompanied by condiments or spices, will have purer blood, firmer muscles, more reliable nerves, greater capacity of brain, higher mental and spiritual endowments, and a more ready command of their resources, than those fed largely on a stimulating diet, whose daily food from childhood up has included hot meats, gravies, richly seasoned soups, side dishes, elaborate desserts, tea and coffee—a combination which, in too many cases, leads in after years to the use of tobacco and wines, if not to confirmed alcoholism. There are other and better ways of reaching children's hearts than through their stomachs, pampering to depraved tastes. Build up their bodies on wholesome, nutritious, muscle and nerve-giving food at regular meal

times; house and lodge them in sunny, well-aired rooms; take some time of each day to be a companion to them, either in study, reading, or out door recreation; give them ample time for sleep, it will pay for the trial. I trust this little lesson of experience coming from one home may work its good results in many other homes.

Health of body, health of mind,
Health of heart and conscience, too,
Health of soul and life's pure part,
Live in those life's seasons through
Who follow Nature's teachings.

A STRANGER.

A FAMILIAR note was struck when one of our number brought up the subject of LUNCHEONS, for what mother has not puzzled over them in trying to make some variety for children who have no other meal in the middle of the day. We consider the school lunch a "necessary evil," for the little ones must have something, but the best that we can do will not satisfy as a warm dinner does. Then when they get home at five o'clock they are "so awfully hungry," and eat so heartily at supper an hour after—of hot bread and whatever else there may be that they enjoy—that their good digestion is in danger, as we consider a very hearty meal at the close of the day a serious thing for most people.

But as to variety in lunches. We have tried cakes and turn-overs. We "ring the changes" on sandwiches and cold fowl, with bread and butter. We put marmalade between slices of bread, and for a change, put it in a cup that will go in the lunch basket, and can be spread on when eaten. We boil eggs hard, and while warm chop them fine, and season with salt and pepper and plenty of butter, and then make a sandwich. All these, doubtless, everyone else has done, but perhaps we may be able to give a new idea about the napkins. In the first place, we think if each child has something of their own to carry the lunch in, (it may be bucket, or basket, or box, as suits the fancy,) and it is brought home every day, there is no reason why the napkin should not come with it; we have had no cause for complaint in this particular. But even if one should be lost, the kind we use are so inexpensive that it would be but a small matter. We buy the tea-cloth linen with red plaid over it, cut it into lengths as desired, and hem on the machine. It sells for twelve and a half cents per yard, and six yards will make twelve napkins of good size that will last a long time and wash well, being all linen. We have two children who ride to school and their baskets and napkins come home about as regularly as they do.

BUSY BEE.

THOSE that have been trying to fathom ancient history, and have gone deep enough, have become fully convinced that an all-wise Providence, when starting the first woman and man in the agricultural business, decreed that woman should cultivate the grapes, and man the grapes and grasses. From that day to this the men don't

seem to be satisfied with the ways of Providence, and are continually trying to change the decree, but with only limited success. Now that women can assert their rights, and prove they are capable of maintaining them, all but the pig-headed men will acknowledge the fact, finding it no use any longer to kick against the bricks. It may be policy in us that are accustomed to have them around, and find them handy in doing the chores, to be lenient with them, but the same time we must keep the line tightly drawn to keep them in place. When we have prohibition in operation, and can trust them in the kitchen and give them instructions in the art and science of cooking, we can then have more leisure to devote to the noble work of charity, and educate our sex up to the governing point. The signs of the times are propitious, and I, for one, will gird myself up to be equal to the occasion.

I cannot say that I admire the fashion that is now in vogue—the very high puffs on the shoulders, that give one the appearance of a hen holding up her wings when overheated; or the waspish waists, that look as though there was not sufficient communication between the upper and lower anatomy for healthy circulation. But then, you know, I am not as young as I was, and when growing up was taught that nature had shaped the human form divine with the necessary grace of action and poetry of motion required for cultivation, and that Mother Eve, not having the variety of fabrics to select from as we have, did not indulge in trains. I would compromise on the Roman toga, but not being in the swim of fashion, don't intend to dictate. Besides, I like to see the girls display their taste and watch their bewitching movements, imagine how they will appear when they become real angels, and I can flop around with them.

SALLY LUNN.

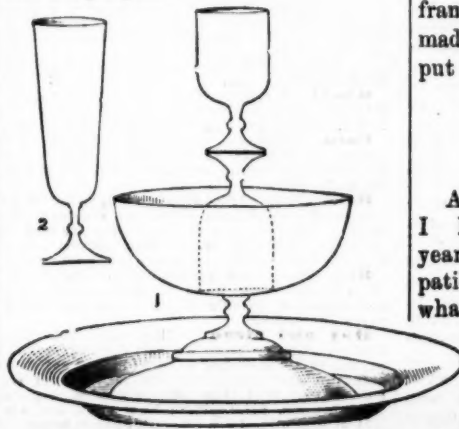
P. S.—Now that BARKIS "is will-in'" and our worthy CERES has accepted him (as a member of the club), I will say that I was waiting for some one to make a motion to that effect, intending to second it with a few remarks, knowing that my own position was not very secure (having seen other Sally Lunn's consigned to the slop bowl from rising and falling too quick), I was afraid to venture. If I was not opposed to betting (and did not have a supply of gloves that were given me by a friend, who purchased them in Europe and landed them in opposition to the McKinley bill, called smuggling), I would bet gloves that BARKIS has a gem of a wife and knows how to appreciate her. My Johnny, at times, bubbles over at me, and I have heard of a man that was trying to describe his affection for his wife, say his dear mother was a wife. It just takes a wife to bring out a man, if there is anything in him.

S. L.

Improvised Table Decoration.

Flowers cost nothing with us, growing as they do by the wayside and in fence corners, and they can be made to beautify and brighten every part of the house.

Nowhere, however, are the so effective as upon the table; a single blossom set before the family by a thoughtful member will give added zest to homely fare, and a happy arrangement of the most common flowers will have a more pleasing appearance than any design of the silversmith. Glass, though it may not be cut-glass, is more suitable than anything else for holding flowers, and any one who has wine glasses, goblets or old-fashioned champagne glasses, need wish for nothing better for this purpose.



The accompanying design shows a simple arrangement of glass dishes, etc., such as most of us have, and it can be made to surpass an elaborate *epervigne*.

The bottom dish may be of china just as well, and entirely hidden by a mass of graceful green leaves, vines or moss, and short stemmed flowers. In order to lift the next dish to a proper height to make the whole symmetrical, a saucer is turned upside down under it. This dish may be filled either with drooping flowers, to hide the dish entirely, or such as show the dish, according to the supply or individual taste. If one has a glass like No. 2 for the top, it will be better, as it admits of using longer stems; but two low glasses may be arranged as shown in the cut. In this should be placed the most choice flowers as they are exposed to all about the table.

This as a center piece set upon a decorated square of linen now so much used, will give character to any table.

Nothings.

1. CHOWDER.—Cold potato, bits of cooked pork, salt; flavor with onion by using onion tops or water in which onion skin has been boiled; bits of stale bread or cracker. Toast or fry, and make a layer in pudding pan, potato on top, then pork, then layer of bread, etc. Use garden pepper for seasoning, and moisten with the onion liquor. Bake for one-half an hour. Cold fish can be added.

2. POTATO SCALLOPED.—Cold potato, crumbs, very finely powdered.

Chop or mash potato very fine. Arrange in layers, and moisten with any gravy. Bake and brown.

LIZZIE G.

1. CLEANING TINS.—Use bran shorts or siftings from corn meal; scour out grease, and feed bran, etc., to chickens.

2. FRIED SOUSE.—Cold meats, boiled into shreds, with very little water; let all jelly. When cold, press. Take out as needed and fry after dipping in bread crumbs.

MARSHALL CAP.

1. DOOR MAT.—Take strips of wood, newspapers cut in strips wide enough to double. Tack on strips; cut edges up; nail all together. It lasts like a coconut mat.

2. PICTURE FRAMES.—Old slate frame. Cover with putty or paste made of flour; sprinkle with sand; put coffee grains around edge; gild.

MRS. WOOD.

Hygiene.

A FAMILY COUGH MIXTURE.—I have not for the past five years found a cough among my patients, no matter what the age or what the cause, whether bronchial, laryngeal, pneumonic, tubercular or nervous, that did not receive more or less benefit from the free administration of a mixture prepared as follows:

Nicholson's or Hoff's malt ext. one pint
Whisky (best) six oz.
Glycerine (c. p.) six oz.
Juice of six lemons.
Crushed sugar two oz.
Mix and boil ten minutes.

Sig.—From one to two teaspoonfuls according to age, every one, two or three hours, as may be indicated.

Prepared in this manner we have a most excellent expectorant cough mixture for general domestic use, containing nothing to disturb digestion, no opium, no ipecac, as do most of the stereotyped cough mixtures in the shops. The glycerine and malt are both beneficial to nutrition, as well as expectorant, and the same may be said of all the component parts of the combination. The amount of the lemon juice may be increased according to the preference of the patient.

I am free to say that in over two hundred and fifty families of this city, where I am the physician, this cough mixture is found indispensable. In my own family nothing else has ever been found necessary to control, relieve and cure the coughs incident therein.—*Weekly Medical Review*.

Baltimore County Grange.

A meeting of this Grange will be held on Wednesday, April 15th, at 10 A. M., in the hall of Garrison Forest Grange, Pikesville. It is hoped all the subordinate Granges in the county will be represented. Fourth degree members will be welcome.

Brief News Summary.

FOREIGN.—557 persons were drowned of the 880 passengers and crew aboard the steamer Utopia, which sank in Gibraltar bay after collision with a British man-of-war.—Mr. Gladstone was given a tremendous ovation at Charing Cross Railroad Station, London, as he was leaving for Hasting, Eng., where he declared in an address that the liberal party was against Mr. Parnell.—There are 153 peers of the British realm who are owners of 1,539 places where intoxicating drinks are sold.—Prince Jerome Napoleon, nephew, and Princess Marianna Bonaparte, grandniece of the great Napoleon, died.—Twenty-two of the crew of the steamer Roxburgh Castle, which collided with the ship British Peer off the Sicily Islands, were drowned by the sinking of the vessel.—The steamer Mirama, of Liverpool, struck upon a reef off Start Point, on the coast of Devonshire, England, during a gale, and the officers and crew, with the exception of three sailors, were drowned while endeavoring to reach shore in the boats.—Minister Phelps obtained the removal of German restrictions on importation of American cattle at Hamburg.—It is believed in Berlin that France and Russia have concluded a formal treaty of alliance.—A bill introduced in the House of Lords instructing British naval officers to secure for France fishing rights on the shores of Newfoundland, is considered an act to coerce the colonists, and one that may endanger the peace of the empire.—The priests of Ireland are antagonizing the Parnellite faction, and the Pope will send a message to the Irish people urging them to sustain the position of the Catholic Church in Ireland in the present political contest.

GENERAL.—Eleven of nineteen Sicilians charged with complicity in the assassination of Chief of Police David C. Hennessey in New Orleans were put to death March 14th, by a mob composed of citizens. The Italian government made strong protest to the United States Government on the subject of the killing, and many meetings have been held by Italians in this country looking to reparation to the families of the victims.—A heavy fire occurred in New York, in which several blocks were destroyed. Loss \$3,000,000. H. B. Claffin's store house on Leonard street, New York, was damaged \$100,000.—Ex-congressman Felton was elected senator from California to succeed Hearst.—General Joseph E. Johnston, the famous confederate general, Lawrence Barrett's the actor, ex-Governor Lucius Robinson, of New York, died.—The Keystone National bank of Philadelphia, and the Washington National bank of New York suspended.—The British steamship Strathairn, with iron ore from Cuba for Baltimore, was wrecked on the N. C. coast. Capt. Wynn and eighteen officers and men were drowned.—The Norwegian bark Dictator, Captain Jorgensen, went ashore near Virginia Beach and eight persons were drowned, including the captain's wife and little son.

MARYLAND.—An examination of the books of the Poor Association showed a shortage of between \$11,000 and \$12,000 in the accounts of the treasurer, Mr. William A. Wisong, which amount was made good by Mr. Wisong himself and the generosity of his friends.—The second Archer bond case was decided in favor of the State, for \$12,867.55.—Mr. Thomas D. Sultzer, an old newspaper man and printer, died.—Rev. Dr. Orlando Hutton, of the Protestant Episcopal Church, died at his home in Montgomery county.—A public meeting was held in Baltimore to discuss the oyster interests of Maryland. Addresses in favor of private ownership of oyster grounds were made by Prof. W. K. Brooks, Mr. John K. Cowen, Mr. Marshall MacDonald and Col. Thomas S. Hodson. A protest against private ownership was received from Knights of Labor.—Five steamers took 2488 head of cattle to Europe in one week.—Rains did immense damage to the roads of Arundel county.—A line of steamers will be started from Baltimore to Holland.—John Wiley, a well-known alliance man died, at Ridgely, Md., aged seventy-two years.—The storehouse of Edward T. Monks at Kolmia, Harford county, was destroyed by fire; loss \$2,000 insured.—George Hitch, a farmer in Wilkes county, died, aged eighty-two years.—Wm. Wickard, of Cumberland, died of cancer of the chest.—Edward Brown, formerly of Elkton, Md., died suddenly in Philadelphia, aged seventy-one years.—Largely attended farmers' institutes were held at Brighton Grange Hall, Montgomery county, and at Towson, at which the subjects of milk and improved dairy methods were intelligently discussed and

exemplified.—Creswell's oyster packing house at Cambridge was partly burned.—Judge Andrew K. Syester died at Hagerstown, aged sixty-four years.—Five youthful predators on Baltimore and Ohio Railroad merchandise trains have been sentenced to seven years each in the Maryland penitentiary.—It is said there are about 193,000 acres of land in Allegany and Garrett counties, Md., owned chiefly by non-residents, on which no taxes have been paid for a century.—The Maryland Court of Appeals has decided the Anne Arundel county subscription case adverse to the Drum Point Railroad Company.—Presentments have been found against Denton, ex clerk of the Howard county commissioners, charging him with embezzlement of public funds.

Baltimore Markets—March 30th.

HEADSTUFFS.
Flour.—Active and firm. We quote:
 City Mills Super..... 3 00@3 10
 Rio Extra..... 2 25@2 40
 Baltimore High Grade Family..... 2 55@2 75
 Western Winter Wheat Super..... 3 00@3 25
 " " Extra..... 3 75@4 50
 " " Family..... 4 50@5 10
 Spring Wheat Patent..... 5 50@5 85
 Rye Flour..... 4 50@4 25
 Hominy..... 3 85@4 00
 Hominy Grits..... 3 75@4 00
 Corn Meal, per 100 lbs..... 1 50@1 75
 Buckwheat..... 2 50@2 75
Wheat.—Southern firm; fruits bringing 105@112 cents, and longberry at 108@113 cents. Western firm, No. 2 red spot selling at 104 1/2 cents.
Corn.—Southern strong and active, white selling at 75 cents, and yellow at 72 1/2 cents. Western advancing, but active, mixed spot selling at 73 cents.
Oats.—Firm. Quotations: Ungraded Southern and Pennsylvania 60@62 cts., Western white 61@62 1/2 cts., do. mixed 59@61 cts., stained and inferior 57@59 cts., No. 2 white 60@62 1/2 cts., and No. 2 mixed 60 1/2@61 cents per bush.
Rye.—Dull, with quotations of choice Western in 90@100 cents, good to prime 85@97 cents, and common to fair 80@90 cents per bushel. Sales 700 bushels.
Hay and Straw.—Hay—stiff for choice grades. Choice timothy \$10.50@11.00; good to prime, \$9.50@10.00; fair to good mixed \$8.00@9.00; common and inferior \$6.50@7.50. Clover Hay, \$8.00@9.00. Cut Hay, choice grades, city standard brands, \$11.00@12.00; New York cut \$19.50@21.00, and mixed grades, cut, \$10@10.50 per ton. Straw firm. Rye in carloads \$15@16 for large bales in sheaves, \$10.50@11.00 for blocks; Wheat, \$7.50@8.50; and Oat \$6@10 per ton in blocks. Short chaffy stock \$1 per ton less. 44 scales.
Hay—Timothy \$8.00@11.00; Clover Hay \$7@10 per ton. Straw—Wheat \$8, Rye \$12@15, Oat \$6 per ton. Ear Corn \$4.50@5.50 per bbl.
Meat.—Firm and advanced. Western brim light, 12 1/2 lbs. \$35.50@36.50, do. medium, 14 1/2 lbs., \$34.50@35.50; heavy, over 16 lbs., \$32.50@34.50, and middlings, \$33.50, all on track; City Mills Middlings, \$35 per ton, sacked and delivered.
Provisions.—In good demand. We quote: Sugar-cured Shoulders 5 1/2 cts.; smoked sugar-cured Shoulders 6 1/2 cts.; Sugar-cured Breasts, 7 1/2 cts. Canvassed and uncavvassed Hams, small averages, 10 1/2 cts.; large averages 10 1/2 cts. per lb. Mose Pork, old, \$12.50, and do. new \$14.00 per bbl. Lard, best refined, pure, 7 1/2 cts. per lb.
Tobacco.—Maryland—Receipts liberal and demand active. We quote: Inferior and frosted, \$1@1.50; sound common, \$2@3; good do. \$4@5; middling, \$6@8; good to fine red, \$8@11; fancy, \$12@15; upper country, \$20@30; ground leaves, \$15@20.
Wool.—Dull. We quote unwashed extra choice and light 25@28 cents, average lots 24@25; do. merino 18@19; tub-washed, fair to choice, 32@35; pulled 27@28.

LIVE STOCK.

Beef Cattle.—Fairly active, with prices ranging as follows: Best Steers \$5.25@5.50, those generally rated first quality \$4.75@5.00, medium or good fair quality \$3.75@4.50, and ordinary thin Steers, Oxen and Cows \$2.00@3.50 per 100 pounds.
Sheep and Lambs.—Offerings light, and market good for good stock. Common to fair Sheep sold at 4@5 cents, good to extra 5 1/2@6 1/2 cents, fall Lambs 6@6 1/2 cents, spring Lambs 7@10 cents per pound, gross.
Pigs.—Steady. At from 5 1/2 to 5 3/4 cts. for common to fair hogs, near-by receipts, and 6c. for good Western, net.

The Columbian Encyclopedia.

This is the new name and new form of what has heretofore been known as Alden's Manifesto Encyclopedia, and which has won great popularity by its high merit, combined with its amazingly low price.
 The COLUMBIAN ENCYCLOPEDIA will comprise 32 volumes, of about 800 pages each (the Manifesto was 40 vols. of 640 pages each), being about equal in size to Appleton's Encyclopedia, and about 50 per cent. larger than Johnson's. The entire set will contain about 7,000 illustrations; it is handsomely printed and bound, and, like the Manifesto, is almost fabulously cheap, the entire set being furnished in cloth binding for \$35.00, with easy installment terms to those who want them. Subscriptions to the Manifesto will be completed in uniform style with the early volumes delivered.
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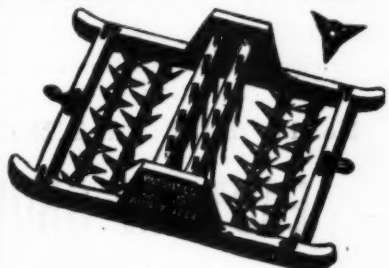
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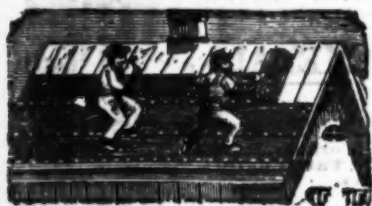
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